

# Heavy Rainfall Crumbles Dam; Water Cascades Into Stillwater, Oklahoma

Stillwater, Okla. — A heavy rainstorm crumbled a dam early today and drove 2,000 persons from their homes in this north-central Oklahoma college town.

There were no immediate reports of casualties but it was feared the city of 20,000 would be isolated by flood waters from Sanborn Lake.

A driving rain began hitting the area at 9 p.m. and by 2 a.m. it measured eight inches. Shortly before 3 a.m. the big dam gave way, turning loose the lake's waters on Stillwater, home of Oklahoma State University, formerly Oklahoma A&M.

National Guard Called Out  
The National Guard was called out to aid police, firemen

and civil defense workers in the evacuation job.

Water coursed through the city quickly, but the driving rain continued.

Authorities issued a call for boats to help in the evacuation. Residents were being evacuated to the American Legion

## House Passes Bill To Put State in Power Business

Salem — House bill 780 putting the state into the wholesale power business passed the House Monday after a move to refer it to the tax committee failed. It now goes to the Senate.

Vote on passage of the bill was 38-21.

Rep. Richard Eymann, Mohawk Democrat, said the bill was not designed to run the private power companies out of business, but to see that Oregon got its fair share of federal power to entice new industry.

To Elect Commission  
Eymann said the State Power Commission established by the bill would only retail power to major industries requiring 10,000 kilowatts or more. The three-man commission would be elected by the people in the November, 1958, elections.

Rep. Wayne Giesy, Monroe Republican, objected that the proposed power commission could bond the state up to \$122 million or six per cent of the assessed valuation of the state. Giesy wanted the bill referred to the tax committee for study of the whole bond picture in the state.

Failing to win approval Monday was House bill 739 which would exempt homesteads up to \$2,500 from ad valorem taxation if owners made a total gross income of less than \$2,500.

Mrs. Melvin Lattie, Secretary.

## 4-H Club News

Beef and Swine Club  
The Phoenix Beef and Swine club meeting was held May 19 at the home of Allen Harris. Scott Holmes showed how to bit a calf. Eddie Meeker noted the points.

Refreshments were not served after the meeting was adjourned because of measles in the house. Scott E. Holmes, Reporter.

building in downtown Stillwater, which is on a hill. The east, west and south parts of town were hard hit.



Benjamin Hooper Jr.

## Benny Hooper To Quit Oxygen Tent

Manorville, N. Y. — Seven-year-old Benny Hooper, who survived nearly 24 hours of entrapment at the bottom of a foot wide well shaft, comes out of an oxygen tent today.

Dr. J. H. Kris, who has treated the sandy-haired, blue-eyed youngster since he tumbled into the well shaft, said a minor lung inflammation had been cleared and that Benny probably will be able to leave the hospital by the weekend.

"He's doing well and feeling well," Kris said.

Benny's temperature, which had reached 102 degrees Saturday, the day after his rescue, was back to normal by Monday.

Benny, whose plight touched off a daylong drama in the yard of his Long Island home, insisted Monday that at no time during his entombment was he scared.

"I was just mad at myself for falling in the hole," he said. "And I kept getting madder and madder as the time went on."



PRAYERS ANSWERED—Mrs. Benjamin Hooper is all smiles as her son, Benjamin Jr., 7, recuperates in a hospital after his dramatic rescue from the bottom of a 21-foot well in Manorville, N. Y. The lad was trapped for nearly 24 hours.

## Snake Nearly Covers Ice Harbor Cofferdam

Pasco — Ice Harbor cofferdam still was nosing slightly out of the turbulent waters of the Snake river early today as construction workers completed reinforcing the structure with sandbags, dirt and gravel.

Officials of Montag, Halverson, Austin & Associates, general contractors at the dam, said the second highest flow since 1910 was expected early today.

It was estimated 314,000 cubic feet of water per second would roar through the constricted passage.

The major problem appeared to be the inability of storm sewers to handle the runoff. Levels of two other lakes, Lake Boomer and Lake Carl Blackwell, were rising and the rains continued.

By UNITED PRESS  
Floodwaters from small streams and creeks poured over parts of the Idaho panhandle today and several families were evacuated from low-lying sections of Orofino.

Gov. Robert E. Smylie declared a state of emergency Monday and ordered the National Guard into action as heavy rains sent streams over their banks and caused mud slides and washouts. However, major roads in the panhandle area were reported open to traffic today.

Basements Get Water  
The major trouble was from small streams and creeks rather than major rivers although at Lewiston the Snake river was seeping into warehouse basements and the Clearwater in the same city was backing up and forcing water into the city's sewer system.

The airport at Orofino was under water. Guardsmen from Lewiston and Grangeville went to help local troops at Orofino in evacuation and dike repair work.

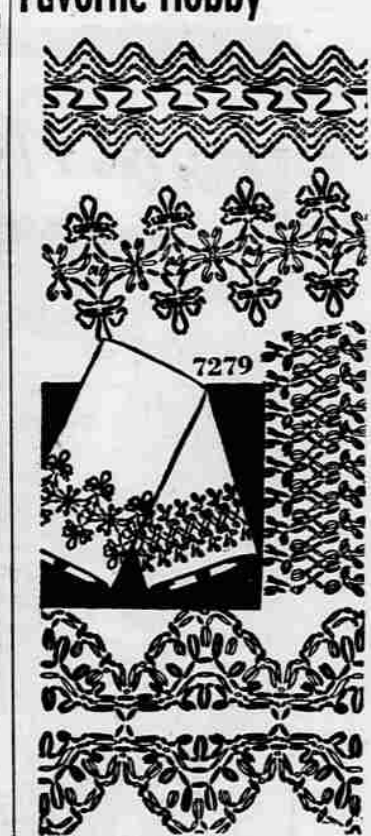
Water ran through the streets of Stites Monday when workers blew up a dike to relieve pressure on a bridge across the Clearwater north fork.

Major streams in southern Idaho were reported in check.

Portland — The weather bureau said today the Columbia and Willamette rivers in the Portland area should level off about Thursday with a continuing rise expected until later today.

The Columbia was at its highest mark of the spring at Vancouver, Wash., 21.5 feet, while the Willamette reached 21.2 feet, in Portland harbor. This is 6.5 feet over flood stage at Vancouver and 3.2 feet over the flood mark in Portland.

## Favorite Hobby



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# Research on Forest, Range, Water Problems Stepped Up During 1956

Portland—Research on forest, range and water problems in the Pacific Northwest has been stepped up in the past year. Robert W. Cowlin, director of the forest service's Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station, has reported in the station's 1956 report.

The report emphasizes the need for multiple-use management of forest areas for the coordinated production of wood, water, forage, recreation and wildlife from forest lands. It tells of progress in securing information through the station's research program on both public and privately owned forest and range lands.

High on the priority list are studies of procedures to secure artificial regeneration of forest stands. The Pacific Northwest is now planting 75,000 acres a year at an estimated cost of \$2,250,000. The region, however, is clear cutting over 300,000 acres a year, the report showed.

While much of this area will regenerate naturally, the planting program must be stepped up, Cowlin said, if the area is to meet future timber needs and keep lands productive.

Backlog of Burns  
The backlog of old cutovers and burns in the region totals 2,500,000 acres which need planting.

Modern timber inventories are needed for today's land management requirements. Much progress has been made, Cowlin said, on the reinventory of the forest resources of Oregon and Washington. By the end of 1956 field work had been completed on 64

per cent of the total forest area. With the recent acceleration of the inventory, the job should be completed in 12 to 13 years.

An important discovery of the timber survey is that the area in pole timber has doubled since the early 1930's, in both the

## 'Granddaddy' Blast Scheduled in Nevada

Las Vegas — The biggest atomic blast ever set off within the continental United States will be held this summer on the Southern Nevada desert during the 1957 nuclear test series.

Atomic Energy Commission spokesmen refused to discuss details of the test. However, the atomic device, with an explosive violence roughly three and a half times that of the A-bombs dropped on Japan during World War II, is expected to be detonated from a platform held some 1,500 feet in the air by a helium-filled captive balloon.

The A-bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the so-called "nominal" bombs, each produced blasts equal to 20,000 tons of TNT. The "granddaddy" blast set for the new test series is expected to produce a yield of between 70 and 75 kilotons or equivalent to 70,000 to 75,000 tons of TNT.

Hartford, Conn. — Reporters covering a high school baseball game thought they were seeing and writing double. Each team's pitcher was named Bob Carlson, each a righthander.

Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine subregions.

Composition Change  
Species composition is changing, the report shows. In eight westside counties recent surveys show that about 46 per cent is Douglas-fir on available commercial forest land, compared with 54 per cent originally; meanwhile, hemlock increased from 24 to 32 per cent. In 10 eastside counties ponderosa pine declined from 56 to 47 per cent of the total volume, while Douglas-fir increased from 20 to 24 per cent and true firs from 10 to 13 per cent.

For the first time in seven years, the report states, the population of the destructive insect pest, spruce budworm, has declined. In fact, few of the destructive forest insects were found in numbers constituting an epidemic.

One notable exception is the balsam woolly aphid, the report shows. Destruction of true firs has reached alarming proportions in parts of Oregon and Washington. An extensive salvage program is under way on Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Cowlin said. This serious outbreak is being studied, he added.

Watershed Research  
The station's watershed research program expanded considerably during the past year. The Siskiyou-Cascade Research center in southwest Oregon has launched watershed studies, making the fourth research province in the Pacific Northwest to receive attention. A highlight of the watershed research

program is the cooperative study started in late 1955 on the Bull Run watershed of the city of Portland.

Range management research also was expanded during the year, Cowling noted. Newly introduced are the big-game habitat studies in the Deschutes Research center area and the mid-Columbia area in central Washington.

Copies of the complete report may be obtained from the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station, box 4059, Portland.



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